

FINAL
BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Sydney Schulman, Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Joseph Merritt, Wayne Hypolite, Joel Neuwirth, Derrick Seldon, Leon Rivers, Joseph Washington and Patrick DeLorenzo

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Schulman requested a moment of silence for Attorney Lewis Rome, former Mayor of Bloomfield, state senate leader, gubernatorial candidate and chairman of UCONN Board of Trustees who passed away on July 1, 2015.

In addition, Mayor Schulman also requested a moment of silence for Mr. Jimmy Davis, who passed away on July 1, 2015. Mr. Davis retired from Tilcon after 34 years of service and was a volunteer firefighter for the Blue Hills Fire Department for over 40 years.

Presentation by Eversource Energy on Bloomfield's Business Energy Solutions Initiatives (Marie MacDonald – CEEC Chairperson)

Mrs. Marie MacDonald, Chair of the Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) introduced several individuals to discuss the new program sponsored by Eversource for Bloomfield Business Energy Solutions Initiatives.

Ms. Samantha Sojka of Eversource introduced the Bloomfield Energy Solutions Initiative Program. In partnership with Energize, CT, CEEC, Bloomfield Economic Development Commission, Victory Energy Solutions and Paquette Electric Company, this program is designed to meet the energy conservation needs of all businesses in Bloomfield.

Ms. Sojka also stated that businesses will be able to receive incentives and financing to upgrade energy efficiencies. There is no charge for the initial energy assessment. Both vendors will make recommendations and custom proposals to businesses for improvements. A donation up to \$250.00 will be made to the Bloomfield Fuel Bank for every project completed.

Councilor Neuwirth inquired about the participation of the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Schulman inquired about the eligibility of small businesses renting in a mall setting.

Councilor Hypolite asked about the comparison of several agencies and their respective roles in this project, CEFIA, CT Green Bank and the utility companies. The goal of both agencies is to assist in leveraging additional funds for businesses to make necessary improvements. He also inquired about the process in selecting vendors. Councilor Hypolite requested additional information as well regarding the detailed information about the cost of assessment audit, incentives, financing, etc.

Councilor Washington inquired about handling code violations with the businesses once an assessment audit is complete.

Councilor Seldon asked if multi-family units would qualify under the business program. In addition, he also asked about tenants leasing and requesting work to be completed without owner consent.

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about the length of the program. It was noted that this program has no end date.

Mayor Schulman stated that it is very important to do community outreach and a marketing campaign.

CITIZEN STATEMENTS & PETITIONS

There were no citizen statements or petitions.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Public Safety - Councilor Washington read a detailed report of the last meeting held on Monday, June 8, 2015.

Committee on Committees – Councilor Washington deferred this subcommittee report for approval of recommendations under Council business.

Land Use & Economic Development – The next subcommittee will be held on Monday, July 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., to discuss the possible sale of town owned land.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

FY 15/16-1: Consider and Take Action on the Initiatives of an Energy Savings Program for Bloomfield's Businesses

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to support the initiative of an energy savings program for Bloomfield's businesses.

Councilor Hypolite inquired about the opinion of the Town Manager on town impact in town services for marketing information and referral efforts. Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., stated that the town is a supporter to assist CEEC and the project vendors. In addition, town administration attend 20-30 business site visits per year with Goman & York, an information packet is given to new businesses from the Town Clerk's Office and the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce host monthly After Hours events for networking, linkage and referral resources.

Mrs. Raquelle Kennedy of Victory Energy Solutions in business for 5 years – specialize in multi-family properties, larger scale commercial properties, air sealing

Mr. Joe Milazzo of Paquette Electric Company has been in the energy efficiency business for the past 13 years, specializing in commercial installations, retrofits and EMS systems.

FY 15/16-2: Consider and Take Action Regarding Committee on Committees Appointments

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to appointment the following individuals to the Ethics Commission with a term ending June 30, 2018, disclosure required:

- **Jennifer A. Marshall-Nealy**
- **James Burton Mull, Jr.**
- **David William Cooney**

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

- On June 24, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended a meeting of consortium of elected officials.
- On June 25, 2015, Auer Farm had a grand opening of their new classrooms.

- Also, on June 25, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended a dinner in celebration of West Indian Heritage Month.
- Mayor Schulman encouraged residents to attend and support Summer Concert series on the Town Green every Thursday now through August 6, 2015.
- On August 8, 2015, the Annual West Indian Day Parade will be held at Bushnell Park in Hartford, CT.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager reported the following updates to the Town Council:

- Tax bills have been distributed to resident. The deadline for payment should be no later than August 3, 2015.
- On June 25, 2015, Mr. Schenck attended the Central Connecticut – Chamber of Commerce Municipal Breakfast in Forestville, CT.
- The June Newsletter was distributed in the last few weeks to town residents.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of June 22, 2015, with noted corrections.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of June 24, 2015 – Special Meeting.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo wished everyone a wonderful summer and encouraged residents to continue support the Leisure Services - Bloomfield Summer Concerts series on the town green.

Councilor Neuwirth gave noteworthy credit to CEEC for their involvement and partnerships in promoting the Business Energy Solutions Program.

Councilor Merritt and Deputy Mayor Gamble recognized the many accomplishments of Attorney Lewis Rome. It was noted that he was a great citizen and fine statesman.

Councilor Washington thanked BATV for the video coverage in regards to the Bloomfield Police Department and CALEA accreditation. In addition, being a native of South Carolina, Councilor Washington also addressed the controversial issue with the removal of the confederate flag.

Councilor Seldon encouraged businesses to support the energy conservation savings program. Every business that participates and completes the program will donate up to \$250.00 to the Bloomfield Fuel Bank, which will help residents in need as well.

Mayor Schulman mentioned a memorial service will be held for Attorney Lewis Rome on Thursday, August 20, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at the University of Connecticut – Storrs Campus.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:32 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.